

01:59:30.000 --> 01:59:31.000

She's the sweetest.

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We should.

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Okay, we should start. We should start, my friends. So I'm gonna do the little early blur even though we've all heard it a million one times already.

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So I'm going to introduce all of our presenters and then we're going to do the Q&A at the end.

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And then we're going to do the Q&A at the end. Please use the zoom chat to ask your questions during this presentation.

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Please remember that the zoom chat will not be archived, so please copy and paste or take any resources or conversation you want to continue or any questions we don't get to.

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After the presentation over to the discord where you can find the thread for this presentation, read the full bios, interact with presentation, presenters, and each other.

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A quick reminder to follow our society community guidelines. I'm not gonna have to kick you out of this one, but if I have to, I will.

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And that is this is being recorded. And so, without further ado, our lovely hosts. We have Alicia Fox Lens, they she is a steward of the Mithopaic Society, a co-host of queer lodgings, and LGPTQIA, LED Tolkien podcast, Alphabet Soup, My Mouth.

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An independent scholar studying Tolkien through a cultural studies lens and expanding the mantle of mythopoeic literature to interactive narrative platforms.

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They have been published in Critical Insights. The Hobbits, something has gone crack, new perspective on JR.

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Tolkien in the Great War. Methopaic narrative in The Legend of Zelda and is currently editing a collection tentatively titled.

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I'm going on an adventure seeking Tolkien's influence in game design and culture. Leah Hagen, she her hers, is just another quakey court geeky queer girl with a BFA in film and a career in dog walking.

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You are more than that, my love. She co-hosts queer lodgings, a Tolkien podcast, and co-leads the Grey Haven Smeal, Smile.

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A gathering of Tolkien fans centered in the US Pacific Northwest. She lives between the mountains and the sea with too much yarn and far too many far too few books.

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10 lens, he, him is the Stuart for Mythopaic Conferences of the Mythopaic Society, producer of Queer Lodgings, a Tolkien podcast, a lifelong geek.

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He has been involved with the Mythopaic Society since 2,018 and has contributed to panels at society events on the Amazon rings of power streaming series and toxic corners of Tolkien fandom.

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Tim has a PhD in biochemistry but also dabbles in media studies. His undergraduate thesis at McKath, McMaster University explored Cold War science fiction as a reflection of the public consciousness.

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He is also co-host of a Jeopardy famous annual Middle Earth movie marathon. And last but certainly not least, Grace Moon, she her hers, is a writer, podcast educator, and activist.

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She is a steward of the Mythopaic Society and co-host of Queer Lodgings, a Tolkien podcast.

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She holds an MED in education policy and leadership from Market University as well as a BA from Rockford University in history and theater and serves on the steering committee for Buy Pride Milwaukee.

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Grace collects books like Smile Collects Gems and Gold. Her non-literary hobbies include quilting, fiber arts, gardening, and almost any crap she can get her hands on. Take it away.

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Oh my gosh, Okay.

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Okay.

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Alright, thanks everyone. This is our panel basically where we tell you all about our podcast, I swear it's not an advertisement, more what we wanted to do is just sort of give you an idea what the experience has been for the co-hosts to make a queer focused.

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Talking podcast over the last, I guess, about a year and a half now. So, I do wanna, we do have content warnings on our first slide there.

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There is gonna be mentioned of sexuality for sure unfortunately homophobia asphobia queer phobia ableism but also a lot of love and queer positivity.

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So who wants to talk about? What our podcast is and what we do.

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One.

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Alright.

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Look, I got how we started, Golia. Yeah.

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I'll go, I guess. Okay, well, so, as you say, Alicia will kind of jump in with, how we came together and got this started, but We, really wanted to focus, our mission basically to a very specific, I guess perspective that we saw was lacking.

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That is, we wanted to discuss Middle Earth from an LGBTQ. IA less focused intersectional, deliberately anti racist and non-Christian perspective.

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Alicia.

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And just to give yeah, I was just gonna say just to give people an idea of sort of the kind of content that we do on the podcast, maybe the 3 co host if you want to just mention really briefly sort of what your one of your favorite episodes that we've done so far.

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Oh yeah, we're skipping all around, don't we? Honestly, my favorite episode we've done thus far has been talking would hate this podcast the one specifically about gender and sexuality because Grace did some fantastic Odin scholarship that was really like New to me and meaningful and I just I wanna like Raise that up a little bit because Grace did really good job and like being able

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to put out actual scholarship on a podcast is great.

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Okay.

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More on that later. We've got the whole thread. So a whole thread that we posted on it Grace.

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Yeah. We got.

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Okay.

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Yeah. That's maybe also my personal favorite, but I will also say like the guests that we have been able to have on and be able to platform has been overall my favorite thing about the podcast is continuing to get to be able to have these discussions and it not just being the 3 of us sitting behind our computer screens but actually having more people come into it.

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Yeah, like for instance, our ACE A episode with Rory and Stuart, we adore them and we also love talking about, you know, sort of different perspectives that get overlooked or sort of or, you know, under appreciated.

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We got so much like great feedback from folks learning more about the ACE and Aero spectrums that, just really, really like, you know, Made me really happy and made me really happy about us deliberately choosing to platform guests who have that perspective really to share with us.

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And just to kind of highlight, you know, obviously we're not going to start playing our episodes or anything.

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It's all audio, but this will give you an idea of sort of the type of content that the podcast has been focusing on in terms of some of our Twitter threads, a lot of these are for.

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Talking Tuesday, which we'll talk a little bit more about later, which is sort of a talking positivity event on Twitter.

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But yeah, you can just kind of get a little bit of a an idea of the kind of content that we're looking at, you know, just trying to.

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Highlight, you know, queerness in Tolkien's biographical information in universe and legendarium or in other stories.

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Yeah, so and also just sort of, you know, generally trying to make people aware that, you know, there's many different ways to read Tolkien's works.

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Actually, no, first, while we, I'm gonna leave this up while, I guess Alicia is going to talk about our motivations for starting the podcast.

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Yeah, it was, it was Spite. So.

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Okay. We are field viceman.

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100%.

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Yeah Yeah.

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Yeah, we actually, the hashtag not sponsored, but also plug. We just started a merch store and one of the things that we have is a rainbow holographic sticker, but also plug.

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We just started a merge store and one of the things that we have is a rainbow holographic sticker that says fueled by Spite.

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So it kind of It is started happening around the toking societies diversity seminar and you know everything that was associated with that.

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For those of you who don't know, I'm the social media steward of the, the, the, the, society and that means that I moderate all of the mythopic society's social spaces.

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So that was a lot of fun for me. And it just kind of escalated when rings of power was starting to finally be advertised and starting to come out with all of the people being racist and horrible and I got really angry and Spite has always been one of those things that fuels me and the through the Mythopaic society spaces.

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I, Grayson and I met at Misscon and Albuquerque and I mean like Leo has been on the sock server for literally ever.

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And, I approached both of them and we started this crazy thing and I am so glad that we that we are all doing this together because even though like I was kind of the bitter impetus of all of this having Grace and Lia with me has that we've really taken the idea of much farther than I ever would have by myself.

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I love that we're all channeling our endless capacity for righteous theory and rage into into this.

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Oh yeah.

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Little into this little podcast. I think it's making great use of our of our fuel of Okay.

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Christian and Even the like, but, or often.

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But then I think also once, you know, we kind of all started looking at what Tolkien podcasts were out there, we noticed a lot of things in common with them is that a lot of them were very straight, a lot of them were very male, very Christian, and even the ones that did feature women were often featuring them in an inferior position.

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Let's talk.

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You know, it's. Let's talk talking with my stupid wife that's never read Tolkien before and that kind of thing.

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Much to help the but we want to have more.

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And We don't really do much to help the whiteness thing, but we're we want to have more, you know, guests of color on so that we can, we can.

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Yes.

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Positive. See.

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Try to help out in that way as well. So just, you know, this, presentation is going to focus a lot on The positives and the negatives that we've seen making this podcast in terms of response, we wanted to start with the positives.

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So I don't know if anybody wants to talk about any of our the kudos and stuff that we've received some of that's been very just you know I mean it's all been very lovely.

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Yeah, it makes my day whenever we, someone actually reaches out to us and tells us that they enjoyed something we said or it made them think about something.

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We actually hadn't checked our ratings on literally anything until last night.

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Okay.

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I hadn't.

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Yup.

02:10:38.000 --> 02:10:39.000

Is that true? Oh man. Oh Hi, Oh my god. Oh, that's so cool.

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Yeah, I haven't I haven't looked at our our Apple podcast ratings and that's where this like this is the best cultural analysis podcast I have heard that is where I found Yeah.

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Yeah, I personally find a really gratifying and I get really emotional when scholars that we've admired and have seen at different conferences weigh in and tell us that you know the research that we're doing is really great or that you know the episode that we've come out with is really great and you're looking forward to more from us.

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That that makes my non academic little heart like really happy because, I'm kind of like, you know, the podcast isn't you know a peer reviewed you know journal article but we do put a lot of of work and research into it and I think that like, Alicia said and, regarding, especially during like Grace's, you know, out in work, like we.

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we're really proud of what we, we put together and it's really gratified to see folks.

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Weigh in and sort of affirm that, you know.

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I think it matters a lot too because Always easier to discount the positive. When you hear the negative things coming at you too and.

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To be able to look at this intentionally and be able to have that support going on throughout our community is really, really huge because The spoiler alert, there's some negative stuff too.

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Yeah, and yes, some of the people in the chat have identified that some of these are their comments.

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Yeah.

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Yeah.

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So thank you very much for. For being fans and talking us up.

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Yeah, we did try to anonymize you, but thank you.

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We love all of our friends of the pod.

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Okay.

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Okay.

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Especially, Ismail Crews Cordova who did retweet a tweet that we made who is for anybody that's not familiar, plays a Ron deer in the Amazon Rings a power series, Alicia and I attended a presentation at Dragoncon where Leith Mcpherson who is one of the language coaches for Rings and Power.

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And also I think did work on at least the Hobbit movies as well, had been talking about how, quickly Ismail took to the album language and how passionate he was about representing Tolkien's languages and we tagged him in it and he did quote retweet us as well so

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And then, so, I am the one that manages all of our social media channels.

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The the co-host do you know put some content and stuff up on there. There's a good reason for that, which you will see later.

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So, we did do a takeover of the talking Tuesday hashtag or for pride month last year.

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So, we did do a takeover of the talking Tuesday, and Tim Bolton.

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Who is in the chat is the organizer of that and like I said earlier it's just a big like talking positivity.

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Event people can give you know we'll share artwork related to the theme of that particular week. Tuesday is the private word for Tuesday, for anybody that's not aware and, so for Pride Month, we decided we wanted to take it over and Tim graciously let us do so and we got a great response out of it.

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I don't know if Chris Vicar is still in the chat, but there's Homo neurotic, taming of smiggle a little bit down on the bottom there.

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Yeah.

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We got over 50 contributions well over. I'm not sure the exact number from the Tolkien Twitter community, ton of queer positivity including character readings, queer ships and pairings, queer talking art, biographical information about Tolkien's life and even bi biographies of people that were involved in the adaptations as well.

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So it was. Such a great like event and just, you know, warmed all of our hearts.

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And this is that thread that we were talking about that covers the work that Grace researched for our episode on sort of Tolkien's viewpoints on queer people.

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And this was really well received. This was put out during that event and, Well, you can go find this on Twitter if you want to read the whole thing, but basically summarizing that like, you know, they did have a pretty close friendship.

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There, you know, and that talking Specifically, red. One of Auden's books of poetry that is just full of the daily life of a gay man kind of thing and experiences and Alicia made this Photoshop this image of Talks in the back tub reading Auden's book.

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And

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Honestly, it's the high point of my queer lodgings career.

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It's my to mix my heart. So.

02:15:53.000 --> 02:15:54.000

Yes.

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Okay.

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Okay.

02:16:04.000 --> 02:16:07.000

Oh, wait, wait, wait. Background information about this picture. This is the picture. From north more
That is the bathroom of his actual house when it went on the market last.

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Yeah.

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That's right. Yes.

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Okay. Yeah. So that may actually be a claw foot tub that Tolkien himself did.

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Yeah.

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And yes, as, Grace, pointed out, this poetry collection is very gay.

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Including explicit references to bathhouses and brothels and sexual relationships and Yes, glory holes.

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So yeah and that got a huge engagement almost 25,000 people saw that tweet or that thread I got a couple 100 likes, bunch of people bookmarked it and everything and it really went viral and we got a bunch of new people following the podcast from it.

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That being said, it has not all been sunshine and rainbows, unfortunately. We have had many instances of backlash and we are gonna highlight a number of them here just to so that everybody knows kind of What is out there?

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In terms of negativity surrounding Even just the very idea of a queer talking podcast without people even having listened to a word of it was People just were like a queer talking podcast that should not exist.

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The absolute idea of it was anathema. To some people. And these are screenshots that came from Facebook groups, big token Facebook groups, including them at the PA society Facebook group.

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Yeah.

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I do love in this one the idea that we I don't, like just some of the framing and all that is just, oh.

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Wow, to start! What fun!

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Yeah, per lo and yeah, it misinterpreted.

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Yeah. This. This one at least gets points for being succinct.

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Yeah.

02:17:59.000 --> 02:18:01.000

Okay.

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And this was somebody that short that then followed us to our Facebook page and Apparently even talking about talking and queerness is in the same sentence is politicizing it and He thought we would all be doomed to help.

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Which is lovely.

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Surprise, surprise.

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Yeah.

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There's a bunch of really toxic people on Twitter. Including. And. Yeah.

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Yeah. In related news, water is wet.

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Yeah.

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And

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There was a period in time early on in the podcast when this group of very toxic folks on Twitter decided that The only person who is actually behind queer lodgings must be Tim.

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They also decided that anyone in the token social media space named him was Tim Lens and was just a secret sock puppet account of Tim.

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It did not matter where anyone was like posting from. It did not matter like nothing logical applied to these folks.

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They just decided that Alicia and Leah and I couldn't possibly be real. And that everything was all to him.

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And so one particular day, February second, 2,023, I, who had successfully gotten off of Twitter, had to go recreate a Twitter account to prove that I am not in fact Tim.

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Yeah.

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It's so funny to me because if you had listened to literally 30 s of any of our recordings.

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Obviously we are 3 people and not one.

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Yeah.

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And for anybody that has not actually listened to our episodes, I am I co-host on a couple of them, but really I am just like behind the scenes like I just do kind of some technical helping out kind of stuff.

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Yeah, and he's our meat shield. Like I really feel like That needs to be called out.

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He does actual valuable allyship work for us in running specifically our Twitter account. So we don't have to do it.

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And yet Twitter seems to think that I created this podcast that I quote run this podcast. This is one particularly vile anti rings of power troll, that a lot of people Here have probably interacted with at some point or another and probably blocked as we all have at this point.

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Yeah.

02:20:38.000 --> 02:20:47.000

I have one regret about this interaction and it is that I missed my opportunity to. Have to add in like I am no man.

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As sort of A. One reference in this tweet. I should have done it.

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Hind site.

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Okay.

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Yeah. Yeah. I am no man that let that be the, timeline modifying. Cleansing there.

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We.

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Oh, this, this was my favorite.

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This was another delightful.

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Yes, we did at 1 point. Write a talking Tuesday thread about, trees. I think the theme that week was like trees or forests or something lines. Yeah.

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It was trees. Yeah.

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And we talked a little bit about birch trees which were, you know, can like, talked about them in his letters and appreciating them in particular.

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And so we looked up some, biological information about them and put it on our Twitter. And people didn't like it.

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And also paraphrase the quote because the way that token refers to his love of birch trees in that particular instance.

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Would not be appropriate or respectful to indigenous populations today. And so obviously we're paraphrasing and adding some contextual information here.

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And yes, we got called brain dead and, you know, that are that the co-host self worth was predicated on their sexuality and all sorts of lovely things.

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And but the one thing that we did get called

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Yeah.

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I'm not gonna say it, somebody else it.

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Yeah, Apex homosexuals.

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Apex homosexuals, which we have decided to embrace. Thank you so much for this.

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It means nothing, so it means whatever you decide it means and you can just take this term for yourself if you're part of the queer community.

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And I still want to make merch with this, but this entire incident is the reason why Ennarmurch store you will see a lot of merch with this, but this entire incident is the reason why in our Merch store you will see a lot of birch tree themed things will make some jokes about it throughout different episodes on the podcast.

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Because this was one that just had us just rolling and laughing.

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It's why one of the things that we refer to our listeners and followers as is birches as well as lodgers.

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Yeah, I

02:23:03.000 --> 02:23:04.000

Okay.

02:23:04.000 --> 02:23:07.000

It's, it just makes me so happy. I can't even like express how much I love this so much.

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The culmination of this whole thing was this particular internet. Going on about Like, I can't believe they think the trees reproduce sexually or whatever, which for anyone who did pass.

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Yeah. Okay.

02:23:23.000 --> 02:23:32.000

Middle school biology. Have some fun with that.

02:23:32.000 --> 02:23:33.000

Okay.

02:23:33.000 --> 02:23:42.000

So the notable token troll that I mentioned earlier I'm not going to anonymize in this case and you have me to thank for the title of this slide.

02:23:42.000 --> 02:23:43.000

Yeah.

02:23:43.000 --> 02:23:53.000

I've got inspired last night. Decided to make a couple of social media accounts became so obsessed that they made a couple of social and media accounts.

02:23:53.000 --> 02:24:04.000

Basically mocking the podcast, mocking our listeners and followers or basically anybody that engages in queer scholarship or queer readings or whatever.

02:24:04.000 --> 02:24:15.000

And I am not an optimizing name here because one it is objectively ridiculous and 2 it is Definitely making reference to.

02:24:15.000 --> 02:24:20.000

Gay activities.

02:24:20.000 --> 02:24:21.000

Yeah.

02:24:21.000 --> 02:24:22.000

Yeah.

02:24:22.000 --> 02:24:24.000

3 it is definitely not this person's name because we know who this person is. Yeah.

02:24:24.000 --> 02:24:37.000

Yeah. And then we very quickly figured out who it was that was behind these accounts and called them out on it and then they started doxing, Elisha and I.

02:24:37.000 --> 02:24:47.000

And looking us up on LinkedIn and starting to make reference to our careers basically. So that was fine.

02:24:47.000 --> 02:24:55.000

And also degrading things like this \$15 token society that they're mentioning is the, society by the way.

02:24:55.000 --> 02:25:00.000

And Sydney University and etc. Yeah.

02:25:00.000 --> 02:25:01.000

And just a note.

02:25:01.000 --> 02:25:02.000

Oh.

02:25:02.000 --> 02:25:06.000

Yeah, cause having a forbid that I have a real job and do this on the side.

02:25:06.000 --> 02:25:14.000

And just to note, just. Things that we have to be aware of, you know, being visibly queer in this space.

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Is like for instance my work is fully informed of our work on the podcast and has a safety plan in place in case anyone calls trying to get information to dox me.

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It's just things that we have to have prepared. In that regard.

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Yeah.

02:25:30.000 --> 02:25:31.000

Yeah.

02:25:31.000 --> 02:25:43.000

And something we end up having to sort of prompt our guest on as well as like, hey, were more than happy to have you, you know, share, you know, any projects you're working on, any, your social media, anything like that.

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But be aware there is a chance that you could end up being targeted as a result. Which is very unfortunate.

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But unfortunately necessary.

02:25:51.000 --> 02:25:52.000

Yeah.

02:25:52.000 --> 02:26:01.000

Yeah, generally if someone is a guest on a podcast It's a positive thing. It's not going to bring hate to them.

02:26:01.000 --> 02:26:02.000

Yeah.

02:26:02.000 --> 02:26:20.000

Not that we've had a whole lot of problem like getting people to come on and and risk it, but it is definitely something that I mean I feel responsible for and like have a fair amount of stress about because I don't want I don't want to open other people up to something that I personally don't even want to face myself.

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I make my husband face it for me.

02:26:24.000 --> 02:26:44.000

Speaking of which, there was an impersonation attempt on me at 1 point. This one we were not exactly sure where it came from or who did it, but somebody made a fake account, that looked like mine, basically putting an L instead of the I in my name, stole my profile image, tagged the podcast.

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And started talking about how our next episode would focus on MAP inclusion for anybody that doesn't know that acronym, it stands for minor attracted person, AKA, a pedophile.

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So they were trying to, you know, basically frame us as groomers and, yeah.

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And this is shortly after they reverted their account to a different name and so this is the same tweet just on the the name that they ended up turning it back to

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And unfortunately, we also did experience some issues with moderation in some online talking spaces, specifically large Facebook groups.

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So.

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So for our Pride Month episode, this is the episode we talked about earlier where we talked about, Tolkien's I relations with queer gay people and experiences with them and everything.

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Bunch of different

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And we did submit this to a bunch of different large, token Facebook groups for pride month thinking Facebook groups for pride month thinking, you know, oh, let's share this with the community.

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Okay.

02:27:57.000 --> 02:28:09.000

Who wants to hear about it and one of the largest, Tolkien Facebook groups we did have some trouble with basically we were accused of being too provocative in our approach.

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You know, there was concern about specifically older members of this group potentially. Being offended by what we were talking about or what the co-hosts were talking about, that sort of thing.

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I think there was also some concern. Expressed that. That some of the dangers that the queer folks have when we are open and visible on the internet that the post could be a sort of lightning rod that might bring that attention to us as if we aren't already.

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Of that. But the best practicing guideline that I would share for anyone in that moderation space is to always Check with the people who are part of the marginalized community who may be impacted instead of speaking over them for protection.

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I also want to bring up that as somebody who moderates a social media space, I totally understand when somebody specifically doesn't want to pose something because they know it's going to attract trolls they know it's going to be a honey pot of people to get out of their community.

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The way to approach a situation like that is to not silence the minority. Like that is precisely what you're doing when you don't allow us to post things that may be borderline like objectionable when you let other people post things that are borderline objectionable.

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Or more objectionable in a lot of cases.

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Like you, you need to. Or yeah or actively really objectionable. You have to have a cohesive theory of moderation and apply it the same way or you are part of the problem.

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This specific incident.

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I was not surprised that they came back and asked us to remove the reference to glory holes. I totally get that.

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There

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But some of the things we were asked to remove like Token would hate this podcast because it's too provocative.

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It's It's needless sanitation.

02:30:21.000 --> 02:30:42.000

Well, that. And that series of episodes, the reason that that episode series exists is because we had, and as you've seen, you know that was exactly the type of push back that we were receiving and we were it was an effort for the co-host to try and reclaim that and and and turn that into commentary.

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Okay, let's look at that. Would token really hate what we are doing based on what we know.

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About the man and his life. And the people that he associated with that kind of thing.

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Yeah, so asking us to. Reframe that title, which we had very specifically chosen.

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Was kind of went beyond I don't know, like, kinda went beyond like editing for a different audience or kind of you know, moderating your speech for like, you know, various audiences.

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It kind of, it directly got to, you know, asking us to make creative choices. Based on their needs rather than based on what we were specifically trying to point out.

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Which, I don't think that that's a great way of being an ally, but.

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I will say if you do not see these sorts of toxic comments that we've been showing so far in talking spaces that you belong in, especially if they are moderated.

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100%.

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Thank your moderators because they exist, they are coming, they're just being removed.

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Yeah.

02:31:55.000 --> 02:32:19.000

Going back to that token Tuesday takeover that we did it was Unfortunately, also not all, you know, singing birds and rainbows, the, the tollky toxic side of talking Twitter did get a hold of it as well and targeted some of not just us but some of the not just queer lodgings, but also some of the people that were engaging in that and, you

02:32:19.000 --> 02:32:31.000

know. Toxic all over it kind of thing. Oh here somebody had alphabet mafia earlier I think that was Rory and we had alphabet activists thrown at us.

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Yeah, it's nice.

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And then a lot of this, you know, the, the, you know, oh, well, they're just friends.

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They're just pals. That's that sort of thing. You'll see more of that coming up.

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Speaking of which.

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And, and we as queer folks. Apparently, we don't understand what friendship is, even though we've had some great presentations on A.

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Does I say these? These particular takes are so frustrating with the idea that elements are of queerness are sexual and therefore degenerative.

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And just on every level they show such ignorance from the folks saying them but Gosh, they're still annoying.

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And yet. Oh, 100%. Yeah.

02:33:23.000 --> 02:33:24.000

Oh yeah.

02:33:24.000 --> 02:33:26.000

It's like they fetishize queerness and are also terrified.

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And yet, these people that are so frustrated at the quote unquote sexualization of Tolkien in his legendarium.

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We also get backlash even when we post Asexual and a romantic takes on token's world and his characters.

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This was all from one single person that went off on a number of diet tribes. Yeah, again, I don't wanna give too much air to these people, but just to give you an idea, you know, it's really seems like a sometimes feels like a damned if you don't damn if you do kind of situation.

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And this was the big one. So, Alicia.

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I was so proud. Yeah.

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Yeah.

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This was this was the more publicity than we ever could have possibly paid for. We've never paid Elon Musk for an ad and we never will because we will never have to apparently so Alicia for, Visibility Day, which is in late September every year, Alicia made this post about the you know sort of idea of a thriple between Rosie and Sam and Bilbo

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or Frodo and they you know they all move in together they share life together for many years after the events of Lord of the Rings.

02:34:46.000 --> 02:34:47.000

And.

02:34:47.000 --> 02:34:49.000

And.

02:34:49.000 --> 02:34:57.000

One guy on Twitter got hold of it and it had and almost 75,000 people saw his post.

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And it got over a thousand likes and hundreds of retweets and really blew up including

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Oh, before we go on there, Tim, I just do wanna specify. Alicia's post was about by romanticism included No elements of.

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Yes.

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Sexuality.

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Sexuality or sexual activity, but was specifically looking at romantic identities. Because we knew that we're likely to get.

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Push back any time that. We take any sort of spicy or take so we were kind of pulling it back already.

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And yet.

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Yes, this is what happened. It resulted in all kinds of, you know, attacks and insults and stuff being thrown at the podcast and the co-hosts.

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Including that people like that read token in queer ways should be burnt like Janithor.

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Which is lovely. We got picked up by bounding into Comics, which is a notorious right wing rage bait outlet.

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Yeah, just as a back story to this post, I realized it was by visibility day at like 1130 at night and was like shit I need to post something today and I just like banged this out and went.

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Run by an asshole named John Trent pardon my French And, he re use it as an opportunity to repost an article that he had written about how Tolkien couldn't possibly have thought any you know that there was any sort of romantic relationship between Okay.

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I had no idea it was going to blow up the way.

02:36:35.000 --> 02:36:44.000

And these are the.

02:36:44.000 --> 02:36:45.000

Yeah.

02:36:45.000 --> 02:36:52.000

By visibility month and by visibility day is one of those times of year where we as queer folks are usually very, very busy doing a lot of different types of activism and so This was especially special to come at this point in time.

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And I just put this one in here to highlight that the same sorts of people that are, you know, against queer readings are the types of people that are in denial about Georgia Maloney being part of a fascist political party.

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Just to give you an idea, we, did, we talked about the toxic corners of, Tolkien fandom or several of us were on a panel at the last OMS, but this is the kind of garbage that they post in order basically just to gin up a rage and you know monetize.

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The rage of basically right wing entertainment media.

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Cool. No.

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Don't go to this website. Don't give this person ad money. Okay.

02:37:32.000 --> 02:37:41.000

And when you see them coming up, this is your warning. So that you know there's not going to be anything of value if you click that link.

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It's like clicking on a Babel on Be link. Just don't.

02:37:42.000 --> 02:37:53.000

Just do not do it. This is just more of the, the trash. Responses that that incident brought up.

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And sometimes you just have to have fun with it. We got called sex at all degenerates and that actually sounded kind of fun.

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So, yeah, I keep going. More naughty names, please. More dirty talk.

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Yeah.

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Oh, and it went international. We had some Polish folks that were apparently not happy with it either.

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Yeah.

02:38:18.000 --> 02:38:19.000

Okay.

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In this as Grace pointed out earlier was, you know, I Sometimes I have to have fun with running the social media accounts.

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And so I was pointing out that, you know, these people were bringing sexuality into posts that had nothing to do.

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With sexuality that we're only about romantic relationship.

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So what has been learned by running this podcast?

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We're not alone.

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There's so many more. Yeah, there's so many more people doing this work than we thought because like I knew this work was happening because I've been going to PCA for literal years now and Robin is great at attracting people doing the scholarship, but it's always seemed kind of siloed to me in that way.

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There's just so many more people doing this and so many people who were Responding to it and who also felt as lated as as we did

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Yeah. I feel like, in the past couple of years, especially with, some of the conferences that I've been attending.

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From the token society. And this fairy conference in fact, really highlights that we've We've been doing this work for quite a long time.

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And we're going to keep doing it. And like we we are the future of a lot of scholarship and a lot of fandom in fact and that makes me really feel really heartened because because sometimes it does get very loud and very discouraging with some of the the stuff that you've seen in the previous slides, being thrown at us on Twitter.

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But the thing is Twitter doesn't really matter what really matters is. Fans sort of interacting with each other in spaces like this one and in other spaces.

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Other spaces on the internet you know

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Lee and Alicia, did you want to talk about the specific things that you yourselves have learned about?

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Yeah.

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Yeah, so. Alicia.

02:40:32.000 --> 02:40:54.000

I sure I know so much more about ACE back stuff now than I ever did before and I am so grateful for Rory and Stuart for coming on and talking to us about that and really illuminating a part of the queer space that I didn't have a lot of visibility into.

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Yeah, and on the opposite end spectrum, I'm really grateful for Mercury coming on. Mercury and Cam coming on for the, our BDSM and, Kink episode, specifically about Sauron and, Melcor.

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Yeah.

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I feel like on the opposite end of the spectrum I feel like it was such an engaging discussion about consent and power dynamics and things that I feel like folks.

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Outside of the queer. Identity and, queer, I don't know, reality could really benefit from hearing because, it just went into so many, really deep and interesting places.

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Leo will never be the same after that episode.

02:41:49.000 --> 02:41:50.000

Yeah.

02:41:50.000 --> 02:41:51.000

Yeah.

02:41:51.000 --> 02:41:55.000

Yeah. Never. Never again.

02:41:55.000 --> 02:41:56.000

I'm so happy.

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Yeah.

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Okay.

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But yeah, to that effect of the, you know, we are like, like I said, we are seeing.

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Growth in a lot of different token media spaces. Spaces are becoming a lot more welcoming of queer and diverse perspectives.

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And a whole lot less tolerant of intolerance and bigotry. There is still a lot of growth that needs to be done.

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But I feel like. In a lot of ways. Again, I feel like this conference sort of highlights just how much of a desire and how much, of a have a need that there still is.

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For specifically you know focused spaces where we can be assured that intolerance and bigotry are not acceptable.

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I sort of feel like, that work is sort of very slowly. You know, leaching out into the larger token.

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Media landscape. And I hope it continues to grow.

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I think the thing that I have found so encouraging is that when there are these like upticks and trollish activity.

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When, when we do see the negativity coming through, there's been so much support from just everyone in our broader community that we're already connected to, all of the friends of the podcast, all of the the folks who are engaged in this work in, you know, with sock and other.

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Token societies and groups and all of that and and we'll see a wave of trollishness come through and you know, everybody will just pop each other up, support each other and then and just sort of redouble our efforts.

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Like recognizing like, yep, we still need to be doing this work. We, we still need to be showing some of these.

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Basic things and so that we can get to the deeper questions. But we keep using the. The things that are thrown up in our way in order to build.

02:44:20.000 --> 02:44:25.000

More bridges and platforms. And all of this.

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Speaking of which. These are some of the things we'll be talking about in the future.

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Yay!

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Yeah, we are finally doing the A. One and Farm Air episode that It's like last pride month.

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I'm presenting on it a PCA and oh my god a month and then after that we are doing the episode.

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Finally. And also because someone brought up that all we can talk about is Belleg and Tour and Haven't bud sex.

02:44:52.000 --> 02:44:54.000

Why not? Yeah.

02:44:54.000 --> 02:44:55.000

Okay.

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Why not? Why not?

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In fact, there's another episode that I am currently pitching, which we did mention the Babylon Bees being one of those like terrible worthless sites that trolls and everything.

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And they They posted something that very much trolling Mystock and Tolkien society and all that and saying like go where we took a break from our Trying to remember the exact code of something about, considering the, a, a, a, a, a, a, a, a, of Gondor and whatever.

02:45:25.000 --> 02:45:26.000

Yeah.

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And I was like, Hey, actually, that is a great idea. I think we should interrogate that and I would like to have some folks on as guests.

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So if that is of interest to you, let me know.

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I mean, get me in Sara Brown and talk about D.

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Yeah.

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Be the podcast. Yeah, beat the pot, be the podcast at the Babylon Be hates to see in the world.

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So.

02:45:49.000 --> 02:45:51.000

Yeah.

02:45:51.000 --> 02:45:52.000

Oh.

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Okay. Yeah, so we are gonna focus on reaching out to more people of color. More like differing religious perspectives.

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Like native and indigenous people and people with varying disabilities. We really want to broaden. The base of guests that we've had and like really start touching on intersectionality more than we have like we know that's a place that We're not doing super great because we're all white and like it's relatively hard to get people of color to want to come on a token podcast for many

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reasons. Hopefully it'll get easier with rings of power. Okay.

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Yeah. Yeah, I sincerely hope so too. And, if anybody wants to email and give support for my terrible Tolkien book club.

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Yeah.

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Leo keeps threatening that.

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That I keep threatening. Where I review some of the really interesting, interesting token titles out there.

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Okay.

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You're out of time.

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So I do realize that we are over time. We definitely didn't time this. We, totally put this together last night, full disclosure.

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Yeah.

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But here's all the places that you can find us on social media, including where to listen to our episodes.

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And yeah, we can we definitely have time for a couple of questions.

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We do.

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Honestly, we did really well because every time we say we're doing an hour long podcast, it's like a 3 h podcast in 3 parts.

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Okay.

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So.

02:47:21.000 --> 02:47:23.000

Yeah.

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Thank you.

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Producer Tim will give you credit for that, yes.

02:47:25.000 --> 02:47:27.000

Yeah.

02:47:27.000 --> 02:47:28.000

Thank you all for the work you're doing.

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Yeah, thank you so much for listening to us. Yeah, thank you so much for listening. And, I don't know, bearing, bearing witness to, to what we've experienced and, you know, we're having We're having a great time and we're going to keep doing it and I feel like you know again, this, whole conference is sort of confirmation that

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we're doing good work and we're doing. Good work in solidarity and in good company.

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So, yeah, thank you so much, you guys for letting us. Present present this to you.

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Yeah.

02:48:13.000 --> 02:48:20.000

Yeah, and now that the conference is happening. We're not going to be so crazy busy, so hopefully we can get on to a more regular posting schedule again.

02:48:20.000 --> 02:48:21.000

Same these with the transcriptions. I'm sorry, guys. It's just been so busy.

02:48:21.000 --> 02:48:24.000

Okay.

02:48:24.000 --> 02:48:30.000

Oh, but. This is, yeah. Thank you.

02:48:30.000 --> 02:48:31.000

In many ways I love that the

02:48:31.000 --> 02:48:33.000

We love you Mercury, you're doing great. And we very much appreciate.

02:48:33.000 --> 02:48:43.000

In many ways I love that the things that we are all so busy with are what are preventing us from doing the other things that we're all so busy with and they're all such wonderful good things.

02:48:43.000 --> 02:48:44.000

Yeah, exactly.

02:48:44.000 --> 02:48:49.000

Yes. I want to tell you guys an anecdote. It's something that happened to me.

02:48:49.000 --> 02:48:57.000

Oxen moot this year and i think it'll be really valuable for you to hear because even though podcasts aren't gonna have an older audience as much.

02:48:57.000 --> 02:49:02.000

I think you don't get this. You don't really see it until you see it.

02:49:02.000 --> 02:49:04.000

And I think you need it's worth hearing because if I'm experiencing this, you're also experiencing this, whether you see it or not.

02:49:04.000 --> 02:49:25.000

When I did my found family and bag end paper for Oxen mood. I was so shocked. Because the amount of outpouring from older members of the community who were just like.

02:49:25.000 --> 02:49:40.000

Thank you for this. This is this is everything is there any way that we can have any sort of Anyway, that we could have a network any way that we can keep up and people just really wanted older members of the community wanted to have these conversations.

02:49:40.000 --> 02:49:46.000

And I think you're not seeing it as much on your end because you're in podcast realm, but it's there.

02:49:46.000 --> 02:49:51.000

And I think it's it's really really valuable to know that the elders are with you.

02:49:51.000 --> 02:49:54.000

You know, and they're here in the community and whether they just haven't been able to talk, they haven't been able to stand up and speak.

02:49:54.000 --> 02:50:06.000

And now we are allowing them to do so. We are giving them an outlet for it. And I think you need to know that you're doing that.

02:50:06.000 --> 02:50:07.000

Thank you so much for saying that.

02:50:07.000 --> 02:50:13.000

And I think we're also where we stand upon the work that people have done before us. Like we're not, we, we're not inventing the wheel.

02:50:13.000 --> 02:50:17.000

We're just trying to make sure that there is this space.

02:50:17.000 --> 02:50:18.000

Yeah.

02:50:18.000 --> 02:50:20.000

I mean, in Tolkien's fears, we kind of are inventing the wheel. And the thing.

02:50:20.000 --> 02:50:26.000

Like and it don't under underplay that.

02:50:26.000 --> 02:50:35.000

Yeah, thank you so much for saying that. That's, I, I, again, when we get feedback from folks who are well established in the field.

02:50:35.000 --> 02:50:48.000

Again, it's It makes me feel like, oh, like our, you know, our elders, you know, the folks that we really have really admired and interacted with in community.

02:50:48.000 --> 02:51:02.000

Our you know, uplifting us and showing us that, you know, that what we're doing is valuable and that they, we're doing, we're continuing the work that they've been doing.

02:51:02.000 --> 02:51:09.000

And that's incredibly meaningful to me. As somebody who doesn't have a whole lot of.

02:51:09.000 --> 02:51:14.000

Of queer elders in her life. That's really, really meaningful for me.

02:51:14.000 --> 02:51:16.000

Thank you for saying that, Mercury.

02:51:16.000 --> 02:51:26.000

You're welcome. It was it was really meaningful for me too because we don't we For many reasons, we have a disconnect from our elders, for many.

02:51:26.000 --> 02:51:27.000

Yeah. Yeah.

02:51:27.000 --> 02:51:33.000

Many reasons. And it, yeah, I think you need, you need to know that. And so, yeah.

02:51:33.000 --> 02:51:34.000

Yeah.

02:51:34.000 --> 02:51:38.000

So anyone has any questions?

02:51:38.000 --> 02:51:43.000

I know that we're coming up to a break.

02:51:43.000 --> 02:51:44.000

Yeah.

02:51:44.000 --> 02:51:45.000

Yeah, I mean if you want to stick around and yeah, we're on a break so if you want to stick around and chat we can

02:51:45.000 --> 02:51:47.000

We sure can.

02:51:47.000 --> 02:51:48.000

Yeah.

02:51:48.000 --> 02:51:49.000

Yeah.

02:51:49.000 --> 02:51:52.000

We can be informally done. Formally done, in formally we can stick around.

02:51:52.000 --> 02:51:53.000

Yeah.

02:51:53.000 --> 02:51:54.000

Yes. Well, thank you everyone for coming.

02:51:54.000 --> 02:52:11.000

Yeah, I have a Okay, because actually I have a question over this issue. I mean, gone through the token and diversity backlash and written about it and all that other stuff.

02:52:11.000 --> 02:52:12.000

Hmm.

02:52:12.000 --> 02:52:21.000

When you all announced this topic, I was wondering if. That was going to happen again. I haven't seen it but I've been awfully busy and haven't been around on the other hand I assume if there had been Tim Bolton would have sent me stuff because Tim Bolton.

02:52:21.000 --> 02:52:22.000

Yeah.

02:52:22.000 --> 02:52:23.000

Yes.

02:52:23.000 --> 02:52:25.000

You, and you amount of things like, look here. Another asshole, which was so useful.

02:52:25.000 --> 02:52:41.000

For, Yeah, from a P Facebook perspective, surprisingly little. I did run, I ran 2 concurrent ads for this where I wasn't very specifically seeking out token, I wasn't very specifically seeking out token spaces to share it in or scholarly spaces to share it in or scholarly spaces to share it in or scholarly spaces to share it in or scholarly spaces to to share

02:52:41.000 --> 02:52:44.000

Hmm.

02:52:44.000 --> 02:52:49.000

it in and the worst I got was a couple of laugh reacts.

02:52:49.000 --> 02:52:57.000

Like just shockingly little push back and I don't really know why because both of those ads got a fair amount of reach.

02:52:57.000 --> 02:53:00.000

They both reached in the tens of thousands, so you would expect Something would have happened, but nothing did.

02:53:00.000 --> 02:53:04.000

Hmm.

02:53:04.000 --> 02:53:05.000

Now I can't speak for anything on Twitter though.

02:53:05.000 --> 02:53:07.000

I think. I think.

02:53:07.000 --> 02:53:08.000

I was gonna say, yeah.

02:53:08.000 --> 02:53:09.000

I didn't see much on, I didn't see any that I can think of on Twitter either.

02:53:09.000 --> 02:53:30.000

I was definitely keeping an eye out for it. I do regularly run like just scroll through any mentions of queer lodgings whether we're tagged or whether it's just you know the the words in that combination and I don't know if we just.

02:53:30.000 --> 02:53:38.000

When under their radar if they just decided. Let's because they're this is coordinated.

02:53:38.000 --> 02:53:39.000

Yeah.

02:53:39.000 --> 02:53:57.000

Let's not let's not beat around that. There is definitely coordinated effort from certain groups to attack.

02:53:57.000 --> 02:53:58.000

No.

02:53:58.000 --> 02:54:03.000

There's situations where some of the people with large followings will retweet something and then without anonymizing it and then their followers will descend on the end individual who is retweeted or, without anonymizing it and then their followers will descend on the individual who is retweeted or a screenshot was shown of their content or whatever.

02:54:03.000 --> 02:54:19.000

And there has been open admission from a couple of groups as well that there is like coordination on things like Discord servers for instance where they will share screenshots and say so It's entirely, I mean, this is, I guess, a pet theory.

02:54:19.000 --> 02:54:26.000

I do have a bit of a theory that they said, well, let's not give them any advertising because they've maybe they've learned their lesson now and know that.

02:54:26.000 --> 02:54:27.000

Hmm.

02:54:27.000 --> 02:54:33.000

You know, we got a bunch of new followers out of every time basically they've blown us up.

02:54:33.000 --> 02:54:34.000

Hmm.

02:54:34.000 --> 02:54:40.000

You know, yes, it gets in front of a bunch of toxic. Hey holes, but it also gets in front of a bunch of people that are like, wow, this is actually a perspective.

02:54:40.000 --> 02:54:49.000

I hadn't considered before and and this is, you know, or just, you know, I had no idea that this sort of work existed around token and fantasy and stuff like that.

02:54:49.000 --> 02:54:59.000

So maybe they've just decided they don't want to give us any more free advertising, which Oh well, we got enough R.

02:54:59.000 --> 02:55:18.000

I think there's also an element where like our Mythbic society spaces are very well moderated and as are some of the different social media spaces that Miss.Ock doesn't moderate, but other folks who are very intentional about making sure to shut them.

02:55:18.000 --> 02:55:22.000

The inappropriate behaviors.

02:55:22.000 --> 02:55:28.000

I don't think they're having as much fun because they don't get as much reach.

02:55:28.000 --> 02:55:29.000

Hmm.

02:55:29.000 --> 02:55:33.000

They don't get to back people around as much. They don't get as far because it gets shut down.

02:55:33.000 --> 02:55:41.000

Quickly and so they have to do a lot more work than they did had to do a couple of years ago just to just to hurt people.

02:55:41.000 --> 02:55:47.000

And so I think. Good moderation is having an impact as well.

02:55:47.000 --> 02:55:55.000

I also noticed that the backlash against the token and diversity. Dropped off after a month or so.

02:55:55.000 --> 02:55:59.000

Right.

02:55:59.000 --> 02:56:00.000

Right.

02:56:00.000 --> 02:56:12.000

And then of course the rings of power took center stage. And I mean, it's a given that there's a tradition of, you know, media, mocking, academic titles and you know, freaking out about it and all that other stuff that goes back.

02:56:12.000 --> 02:56:20.000

Way before the internet, MLA was always a handy target, you know, just put together the titles and say, oh, look at these weirdoes.

02:56:20.000 --> 02:56:33.000

But rings of power is huge. So, and I checked with Will, No problems with the proceedings for Tolkien diversity in terms of backlash when that was published.

02:56:33.000 --> 02:56:34.000

So. So I think

02:56:34.000 --> 02:56:40.000

Hey, they certainly have. Yeah, I would say they certainly have a short attention span, the trolls.

02:56:40.000 --> 02:56:54.000

I would say that that big set of backlash that we got in late September. Lasted maybe.

02:56:54.000 --> 02:56:55.000

It's like 3 days.

02:56:55.000 --> 02:56:59.000

The bulk of it came, I would say, 90% of it came through and maybe a 24 or 36 h period and then it sort of trailed off and we saw a little bit here in there for a few days after that kind of thing.

02:56:59.000 --> 02:57:06.000

Like and it's just It's all driven by this coordinated machinery of rage bait, right?

02:57:06.000 --> 02:57:13.000

It's it's these people like John Trent like like others like, Nerd Roddick on Twitter, if you follow that guy, do not.

02:57:13.000 --> 02:57:24.000

These, are people that have realized that they can capitalize and make money off of, you know, anti wokeness and whatever the heck that actually means kind of thing, right?

02:57:24.000 --> 02:57:53.000

And so they the and their followers will just fall right in line you know once they once the the leaders have moved on to the next topic, everyone will just follow with them.

02:57:53.000 --> 02:57:54.000

Hmm.

02:57:54.000 --> 02:57:58.000

Yeah, Robin, you mentioned like people pushing back about like against academics. One of the things that I think really is that's really interesting about the people who have been stalking and you know, doxing us is that they are themselves an academic and are positioning themselves as anti-intellectual.

02:57:58.000 --> 02:57:59.000

Which I find hilarious.

02:57:59.000 --> 02:58:10.000

Yeah, it's a fascinating. Contradiction. I, it's sort of like, yeah, seeing that whole thing unfold.

02:58:10.000 --> 02:58:11.000

Yeah.

02:58:11.000 --> 02:58:12.000

It's a microcosm of how Yeah, how conservatism works.

02:58:12.000 --> 02:58:13.000

It's fascinating to me. Huh.

02:58:13.000 --> 02:58:25.000

Great, Craig Fran and I are talking about how to, and, and, about how to deal with the issue of outright extremist.

02:58:25.000 --> 02:58:31.000

Varying levels, including outright cashist in Tolkien academia.

02:58:31.000 --> 02:58:32.000

Yeah.

02:58:32.000 --> 02:58:33.000

Yeah.

02:58:33.000 --> 02:58:39.000

And I have a, older presentation and someone will probably make it into the introduction of the racism.

02:58:39.000 --> 02:58:55.000

That pretty much says, white supremacists will no longer provide, can no longer provide cover for white academia.

02:58:55.000 --> 02:58:56.000

Right.

02:58:56.000 --> 02:59:00.000

This came in the wake of the blowup at the Kalamazoo. Medieval Congress where Oh, Rachel Fulton Brown brought Mino, before he toppled out.

02:59:00.000 --> 02:59:04.000

Right.

02:59:04.000 --> 02:59:05.000

Right.

02:59:05.000 --> 02:59:08.000

The group because he's a federal file. Provider brought, and they had coordinated an attack on Dorothy Kim.

02:59:08.000 --> 02:59:10.000

Okay.

02:59:10.000 --> 02:59:21.000

Who is a medievalist of color and, she asked for protection from The Congress, thing and they refused to give it on the grounds of academic freedom.

02:59:21.000 --> 02:59:30.000

Which will lead to medievalist of color boycotting Kalamazoo, which is right up there with Leeds for the big medieval events and going and forming their own events.

02:59:30.000 --> 02:59:33.000

Right.

02:59:33.000 --> 02:59:45.000

And scholarly networks. That is, Calum is, I'm, don't say every medieval is the color did, but the organized medievalist of color who saw Dorothy Kim was treated, have left.

02:59:45.000 --> 02:59:51.000

So it's. The phone call is coming from in the house.

02:59:51.000 --> 02:59:52.000

Yeah, it absolutely is.

02:59:52.000 --> 02:59:59.000

Yeah, I do want to point out, that paper about barrenness and middle earth that just ran in myth lore which is very thinly veiled white replacement theory.

02:59:59.000 --> 03:00:04.000

Yeah. Yeah.

03:00:04.000 --> 03:00:05.000

Okay. Yeah.

03:00:05.000 --> 03:00:06.000

I can spoil her. We're

03:00:06.000 --> 03:00:20.000

Via, Claire. And maybe Sara Brown, if she's not too busy, are writing a response to Henderson.

03:00:20.000 --> 03:00:23.000

Yeah.

03:00:23.000 --> 03:00:24.000

I'm so sorry.

03:00:24.000 --> 03:00:25.000

Good. I'm so glad. So glad. Cause I read that paper for the paper I'm presenting here and I, it, it was awful.

03:00:25.000 --> 03:00:27.000

Yeah.

03:00:27.000 --> 03:00:35.000

I had to like lean on our group chat like guys. I don't think I can do this

03:00:35.000 --> 03:00:36.000

Okay.

03:00:36.000 --> 03:00:37.000

Yeah.

03:00:37.000 --> 03:00:38.000

He

03:00:38.000 --> 03:00:41.000

This is why I need many more referees. I cannot get more than one person to referee anything.

03:00:41.000 --> 03:00:42.000

Okay.

03:00:42.000 --> 03:00:43.000

Yeah, I, I would have, I would haveve refereed it in a hot minute, Janet.

03:00:43.000 --> 03:00:44.000

Okay.

03:00:44.000 --> 03:00:49.000

Yeah. I was gonna say. Okay. I was gonna say Janet that Claire and I were a bit like.

03:00:49.000 --> 03:00:50.000

Oh

03:00:50.000 --> 03:00:52.000

Yeah.

03:00:52.000 --> 03:00:53.000

Yeah.

03:00:53.000 --> 03:00:54.000

Okay, all right.

03:00:54.000 --> 03:00:55.000

Jot down names right here because we're volunteering remind us we volunteered Oldest to it.

03:00:55.000 --> 03:00:56.000

Goes!

03:00:56.000 --> 03:01:06.000

Claire, Claire and I were a bit like, what is, is Janet like deliberately trying to like, Get us specifically to like write back.

03:01:06.000 --> 03:01:07.000

Okay.

03:01:07.000 --> 03:01:08.000

Engagement.

03:01:08.000 --> 03:01:20.000

Well, you know, there is that there is that thing where you know, you do want to have something that sets off a little discussion, but I, you know, it kind of like, why is this okay, but this referee says, yeah, Alright.

03:01:20.000 --> 03:01:21.000

Yeah.

03:01:21.000 --> 03:01:22.000

I think.

03:01:22.000 --> 03:01:23.000

I just want to.

03:01:23.000 --> 03:01:24.000

Claire and I are working.

03:01:24.000 --> 03:01:25.000

Yes.

03:01:25.000 --> 03:01:26.000

Yeah, I'm not throwing you under the bus there, Janet. I understand it happens, but like, oh my god.

03:01:26.000 --> 03:01:27.000

Yeah.

03:01:27.000 --> 03:01:28.000

Yeah.

03:01:28.000 --> 03:01:29.000

I got it.

03:01:29.000 --> 03:01:35.000

As you say.

03:01:35.000 --> 03:01:36.000

Thank you.

03:01:36.000 --> 03:01:37.000

Exactly.

03:01:37.000 --> 03:01:38.000

Yeah, exactly, exactly.

03:01:38.000 --> 03:01:47.000

Well, in the Alicia it was careful to make the point when we talked about it on the podcast of, you know, peer reviewed does not mean appear endorsed in terms of the quality of your There the tone of your argument that you were putting through that you know you've done it correctly and now we are correctly going to analyze your argument.

03:01:47.000 --> 03:01:48.000

Yes, yeah.

03:01:48.000 --> 03:01:49.000

Well.

03:01:49.000 --> 03:01:57.000

That's gonna say, but yeah, expect something from Clara and I and Robin as well.

03:01:57.000 --> 03:01:58.000

Highly anticipated.

03:01:58.000 --> 03:01:59.000

Great. Okay. I mean, it was one of those where there was Yeah.

03:01:59.000 --> 03:02:05.000

You and I may. Let me sort of get this into because I'll have to leave blocked up. You and I need to talk because I did.

03:02:05.000 --> 03:02:08.000

Brad Eden was suffering from the same problem and I think all journals are, it is very hard to get new reviewers in.

03:02:08.000 --> 03:02:35.000

It probably always has been hard. It's even harder for all sorts of reasons. And I pushed him to put out an appeal for people to become reviewers.

03:02:35.000 --> 03:02:36.000

Yeah.

03:02:36.000 --> 03:02:37.000

And offered to do some workshoppping with people who had not been reviewers before. But who certainly have the chops looking at a whole bunch of you to be reviewers but are nervous about starting because they haven't been trained.

03:02:37.000 --> 03:02:42.000

I know. Okay.

03:02:42.000 --> 03:02:45.000

I mean, yeah, that's me. That's exactly me.

03:02:45.000 --> 03:02:46.000

So.

03:02:46.000 --> 03:02:47.000

Okay, Mercury.

03:02:47.000 --> 03:02:55.000

Yeah, well, yeah. So I try, yeah. My, and my, yeah, my instructions, my instruction sheet for reviewers has gotten up to 4 pages now.

03:02:55.000 --> 03:02:56.000

Yeah, but.

03:02:56.000 --> 03:02:57.000

So it's got all kinds of stuff in it, but I was just raked across the calls by somebody I asked to review.

03:02:57.000 --> 03:03:07.000

Oh well, how dare you ask me to return this on the due date? Oh, everybody gives us 2 extra weeks.

03:03:07.000 --> 03:03:09.000

What? It's a, you committed.

03:03:09.000 --> 03:03:10.000

Okay, well.

03:03:10.000 --> 03:03:18.000

Wow. But what I do, what I do with what I did, it was Maria Alberto and Sinani Shannon who are the 2 people I worked with.

03:03:18.000 --> 03:03:27.000

Our third volunteer had enough experience. He didn't need it. I met with them by Zoom. We had a couple of Brad, let us use.

03:03:27.000 --> 03:03:35.000

Older pieces or no I could use the ones I was reviewing that had already finished. But hadn't sort of gone in, I forget the details, but went over them.

03:03:35.000 --> 03:03:51.000

We talked about how to do it. They did a draft. I gave it feedback. And so they actually had the practice and I also said if you need me to Look at a review that you're turning in before you do to see if there's any issues.

03:03:51.000 --> 03:03:57.000

I will do that. And Brad, I made this pitch to Brad. It worked well. I mean, they're through.

03:03:57.000 --> 03:04:05.000

They're reviewing now. If you are interested, I'm retired. I mean, I'm so really busy, but that is a possibility.

03:04:05.000 --> 03:04:18.000

And I think it's something that more of the journals are going to do, not just.

03:04:18.000 --> 03:04:19.000

Yeah. That means they have to read them. No, I think that's that's a great idea.

03:04:19.000 --> 03:04:27.000

I mean, the instructions are fantastic. But you know your s many of us know giving students instructions the first draft they Well, no, it still means they need feedback.

03:04:27.000 --> 03:04:28.000

Yeah.

03:04:28.000 --> 03:04:31.000

Yeah, I'd be I'd love to do something like that. Maybe, maybe we could do something at PCA, just stick in a little.

03:04:31.000 --> 03:04:34.000

Talk about how to be a reviewer.

03:04:34.000 --> 03:04:35.000

Yeah.

03:04:35.000 --> 03:04:36.000

We're probably, we're probably booked too solid.

03:04:36.000 --> 03:04:37.000

What is needed, what is needed is not the lecture or even the instructions, although the instructions have to be shared.

03:04:37.000 --> 03:04:50.000

It is the someone who is willing to break it down with people personally interact with them, redress, give feedback, have them revise.

03:04:50.000 --> 03:04:51.000

It's the support during the process so that they have that assurance. Yeah.

03:04:51.000 --> 03:04:52.000

Okay. Okay.

03:04:52.000 --> 03:04:55.000

The process? Yes, yes. Because

03:04:55.000 --> 03:04:56.000

So.

03:04:56.000 --> 03:05:00.000

Luke, I was gonna say, I'm gonna break in here. Luke, did you wanna say something?

03:05:00.000 --> 03:05:01.000

Do you have your hand raised?

03:05:01.000 --> 03:05:02.000

Oh yeah, I'm, I'm not working anymore.

03:05:02.000 --> 03:05:03.000

Oh.

03:05:03.000 --> 03:05:04.000

Yeah.

03:05:04.000 --> 03:05:07.000

Yeah, that's going to say Mercury, you're fine. Don't worry about it.

03:05:07.000 --> 03:05:23.000

So my background, my mother was a. And administrator in college for 30 years or so. And one of her initiatives that she always pushed for was for more racial diversity in her administration as well as in her student.

03:05:23.000 --> 03:05:36.000

Group. And so when I started setting up reviewers for Now, and I went there and I said, we don't like, I might just not know, but we don't have a lot of scholars of color.

03:05:36.000 --> 03:05:43.000

We just don't want a very white group. And so it's hard to find reviewers.

03:05:43.000 --> 03:05:52.000

Who have experience doing referees who, either are people of color or that's their field or like we just need more better representation.

03:05:52.000 --> 03:06:03.000

And she said, well, then you have to train them. And so one of our initiatives is we have student members of our review board and they're paired with some one to mentor them, someone else on the board that mentors them.

03:06:03.000 --> 03:06:04.000

Hmm.

03:06:04.000 --> 03:06:14.000

And so it was Marianna was our student member and now it's, Tom Emanuel.

03:06:14.000 --> 03:06:15.000

That's a great idea. That's a great idea.

03:06:15.000 --> 03:06:16.000

That's it. Just that mentoring structure we built it in.

03:06:16.000 --> 03:06:20.000

Yeah. Yeah.

03:06:20.000 --> 03:06:21.000

Yeah, thanks for sharing that, Luke.

03:06:21.000 --> 03:06:27.000

I mean, it's what the best teaching of writing involves. You have to do. Oh, work shopping.

03:06:27.000 --> 03:06:29.000

Hmm. Yeah.

03:06:29.000 --> 03:06:39.000

Yeah, that is a fantastic idea because I know Janet has sent me like a paper or 2 to look at because I'm kind of like the gaming person.

03:06:39.000 --> 03:06:45.000

And the first one I got sent I was like Oh shit, what am I doing? Oh my god.

03:06:45.000 --> 03:06:48.000

Okay.

03:06:48.000 --> 03:06:59.000

Yeah.

03:06:59.000 --> 03:07:00.000

Hmm.

03:07:00.000 --> 03:07:02.000

Yeah, and like getting past that it is difficult and having like a mentorship would catapult you through the parallelization that happens when you're confronted with something that you're not a hundred percent sure you know how to do.

03:07:02.000 --> 03:07:03.000

Yeah.

03:07:03.000 --> 03:07:04.000

Hmm.

03:07:04.000 --> 03:07:15.000

Not for nothing. Anytime we're talking about marginalized communities, marginalized identities, imposter syndrome is a tremendous factor and that mentorship I think is one of the ways to get over that hurdle.

03:07:15.000 --> 03:07:20.000

So I think it's a great idea.

03:07:20.000 --> 03:07:23.000

Hmm.

03:07:23.000 --> 03:07:24.000

Yeah.

03:07:24.000 --> 03:07:25.000

I was just typing, you also have to get through your own imposter. Yeah.

03:07:25.000 --> 03:07:28.000

Well, you know, this is thing. I'm thinking how can I actually do this mentoring people?

03:07:28.000 --> 03:07:30.000

Yeah.

03:07:30.000 --> 03:07:31.000

Yeah, like.

03:07:31.000 --> 03:07:32.000

Yeah. How can I do this before?

03:07:32.000 --> 03:07:41.000

Oh, Janet, you, you, you would be incredible. And, you know, I'm on to work with you and talk about it and share my materials and I bet there are other people in Miscan and Mythopoic who would be willing to do this.

03:07:41.000 --> 03:07:45.000

Yeah.

03:07:45.000 --> 03:07:46.000

One of the

03:07:46.000 --> 03:07:50.000

Cause you might be able to sort of develop a pool but What I'm seeing is every academic journal has this problem.

03:07:50.000 --> 03:07:56.000

There's a whole complex of things behind it and

03:07:56.000 --> 03:07:57.000

Yeah.

03:07:57.000 --> 03:08:05.000

Trying to do in researching. I was warned that a lot of senior people wouldn't come to it if I had weekly Zoom Meetings because of Zoom.

03:08:05.000 --> 03:08:16.000

I understand they can come whatever it's nobody I don't take attendance But I'm really, it was started to try and work with, let's say, junior scholars because not all.

03:08:16.000 --> 03:08:23.000

Younger, not all beginning scholars are. Chronologically young. Nontraditional age ones.

03:08:23.000 --> 03:08:33.000

But it's, I think it's working. In terms of what I'm seeing coming out of the research and talking in the workshops that we've been doing.

03:08:33.000 --> 03:08:34.000

Yeah.

03:08:34.000 --> 03:08:35.000

Coming out of the research and token in the workshops that we've we've been doing.

03:08:35.000 --> 03:08:39.000

So, and what I saw with Maria and Sinale was just brilliant. In fact, I learned, I learned some good chops from them.

03:08:39.000 --> 03:08:42.000

Yeah, well.

03:08:42.000 --> 03:08:48.000

It's like. I should do that in my review report.

03:08:48.000 --> 03:08:51.000

Luke. Did you have something to share?

03:08:51.000 --> 03:08:52.000

Yes.

03:08:52.000 --> 03:09:00.000

So I one of the way that I have managed to do it is that to meet your Phoenix one of my board members.

03:09:00.000 --> 03:09:01.000

Hmm.

03:09:01.000 --> 03:09:05.000

And since she has this center of fancy in the fantastic bear, we're recruiting from that pool.

03:09:05.000 --> 03:09:14.000

And that way she's right there to be able to mentor them. And also I on the board I got everyone to agree to a specific number of.

03:09:14.000 --> 03:09:20.000

Your views every year and I told to meet you okay you you get to do 2 fewer reviews each year cause you're helping other people, you know?

03:09:20.000 --> 03:09:21.000

Okay.

03:09:21.000 --> 03:09:23.000

Okay.

03:09:23.000 --> 03:09:32.000

Kind of lighten the load on her so she's She has the ability and availability to do that.

03:09:32.000 --> 03:09:33.000

Thank you, Luke. Appreciate it. Thank you.

03:09:33.000 --> 03:09:34.000

But the other thing is I actually have to go for a little while. So, talk to you all later.

03:09:34.000 --> 03:09:41.000

Okay, well thanks. I'm Yeah. Well, I'm getting some good ideas here. It's just how to do this is going to be the question.

03:09:41.000 --> 03:09:56.000

So. I'll talk with Robin and see if I can get in because I would love to call on you guys and I don't want you to feel like you have imposter syndrome and can't do it because You know, if I ask you, it's because I know you have knowledge about a particular area.

03:09:56.000 --> 03:10:00.000

But, anyway, okay, thank you.

03:10:00.000 --> 03:10:01.000

Yeah, thank you, Janet.

03:10:01.000 --> 03:10:13.000

Yeah, you can't change my brain meet. I'm always going to have imposter syndrome.

03:10:13.000 --> 03:10:14.000

Yeah, like.

03:10:14.000 --> 03:10:17.000

I still do, I mean, you know, I'd listen to people like Robin and say, well, actually, I only really started doing this in 2,000, so, you know, that's just, and then I wait, oh wait, that's 24 years now.

03:10:17.000 --> 03:10:18.000

So.

03:10:18.000 --> 03:10:34.000

Going back to some of those like when I got doxed and that person was talking about like How I'm a graphic designer and like all of this shit I wanted to crawl up in a hole and die for about 2 days, cause I was like, oh god!

03:10:34.000 --> 03:10:35.000

They see I actually am an imposter like not this particular person fuck them but like it's obviously it's obvious to the entire world.

03:10:35.000 --> 03:10:44.000

Hmm. Yeah.

03:10:44.000 --> 03:10:45.000

Yeah, big time.

03:10:45.000 --> 03:10:46.000

And no amount of being proud of what we've put out or like what I what I've written what we've like recorded.

03:10:46.000 --> 03:10:55.000

None of that is enough to override imposter syndrome. I have a therapist for working on it.

03:10:55.000 --> 03:10:57.000

Oh, I know.

03:10:57.000 --> 03:10:58.000

I mean, yeah.

03:10:58.000 --> 03:11:10.000

Yeah, I, yeah, I'm just, I'm the same. I mean, it's like, yeah, it's it's difficult to come overcome years of in my case like you know anxiety and depression so it's sort of like Hi, I have a therapist too.

03:11:10.000 --> 03:11:13.000

We're getting there. I'm I love our podcast. I love what we're doing, but.

03:11:13.000 --> 03:11:16.000

Team therapy, deep therapy.

03:11:16.000 --> 03:11:31.000

Team therapy, it's great, but, but yeah, that, that full incident, Alicia, yeah, it, Yeah, it would there was to say as trickering as it was for you.

03:11:31.000 --> 03:11:37.000

I was I was in a lot of in a lot of sympathy, a lot of empathy there with you.

03:11:37.000 --> 03:11:46.000

Yeah, I also have a plan at my office if somebody tries to get in touch with them about me.

03:11:46.000 --> 03:11:47.000

Welcome, no one did.

03:11:47.000 --> 03:11:53.000

I'm a nobody, so I don't care. Okay.

03:11:53.000 --> 03:12:08.000

Yup, it's a very special. Conversation to have to have and at least the person who I directly reported to you at the time is also queer, also part of many of the same communities.

03:12:08.000 --> 03:12:18.000

And recognize the importance of putting this out and within 24 h there was an email company wide from HR.

03:12:18.000 --> 03:12:35.000

With, you know, protections for all of us, but It's. It's a lot to ask people to face even if they are eager and they're like, fuck this, like, yeah, we get to do this thing and we don't, we don't let the haters win.

03:12:35.000 --> 03:12:41.000

It's always a lot to ask people to take on.

03:12:41.000 --> 03:12:49.000

Yeah, I do keep telling myself, you know, at least I moved to Canada. I'm still employed in Georgia, so if they show up at my office they're not going to be able to get me.

03:12:49.000 --> 03:12:56.000

But also they have to cross an international border and they can't do that with a gun so I'm probably save.

03:12:56.000 --> 03:12:57.000

Yeah.

03:12:57.000 --> 03:12:58.000

There you go.

03:12:58.000 --> 03:13:01.000

I'm glad you are. Yeah.

03:13:01.000 --> 03:13:02.000

Yeah.

03:13:02.000 --> 03:13:11.000

Honestly, no joke. No joke. No joke. Like the fact that I live in the UK and when I went to the Token Society seminar, I literally said to someone, I am so glad I don't live in the US right now.

03:13:11.000 --> 03:13:12.000

Yeah.

03:13:12.000 --> 03:13:16.000

Doing the work that I was doing for the Tokyo Society seminar on. I was like.

03:13:16.000 --> 03:13:22.000

I don't I feel unsafe, but I don't feel as unsafe as I could be because I live in the UK.

03:13:22.000 --> 03:13:23.000

Yeah, yeah.

03:13:23.000 --> 03:13:25.000

Yeah.

03:13:25.000 --> 03:13:36.000

One of the concerns that I have also. Like struggled to figure out how to work with and I've at least spoken to neighborhood liaison officers.

03:13:36.000 --> 03:13:44.000

In my community about this is that so far we haven't had threats of swatting.

03:13:44.000 --> 03:13:46.000

Yeah.

03:13:46.000 --> 03:13:47.000

Yeah.

03:13:47.000 --> 03:13:52.000

But it is a concern of mine and it is something that I have had to have conversations about and I do not want to give the trolls ideas.

03:13:52.000 --> 03:14:06.000

But it is something that is very easy for them to do remotely. And to do a lot of harm in that way and so it's just something that keep in mind and have plans for

03:14:06.000 --> 03:14:09.000

I mean, this is gonna sound horrible, but Yeah. Yeah.

03:14:09.000 --> 03:14:10.000

Yeah.

03:14:10.000 --> 03:14:13.000

Yeah, that's safe. I'm cleansing this space here really quickly. Let me get the evil eye and.

03:14:13.000 --> 03:14:21.000

We are white.

03:14:21.000 --> 03:14:22.000

Yeah.

03:14:22.000 --> 03:14:25.000

Okay. Okay. Like sensor everything here and be like don't Don't put them to be there, but.

03:14:25.000 --> 03:14:26.000

Sorry, Alicia, go ahead.

03:14:26.000 --> 03:14:27.000

Yeah.

03:14:27.000 --> 03:14:28.000

Yeah.

03:14:28.000 --> 03:14:40.000

Yeah, like I don't wanna breathe that into existence and there's no real way to say this.

03:14:40.000 --> 03:14:41.000

Percent percent.

03:14:41.000 --> 03:14:47.000

It isn't gonna sound horrible, but we are all white and that gives us some degree of protection against Swatting like not a hundred percent protection obviously but like it's Yeah, the environment.

03:14:47.000 --> 03:14:52.000

In the United States is terrifying. It really is.

03:14:52.000 --> 03:14:56.000

And it's more terrifying when you move away.

03:14:56.000 --> 03:15:04.000

Somehow, like not I'm not immortal danger anymore. I don't feel like I am But I've had my eyes opened.

03:15:04.000 --> 03:15:10.000

Hmm.

03:15:10.000 --> 03:15:11.000

Hmm.

03:15:11.000 --> 03:15:16.000

In terms of what things could be and are not down there and it makes me I guess it's not it's not more terrifying it's just sadder really.

03:15:16.000 --> 03:15:26.000

Not that Canada's perfect. Not that Canada is even like super great. It's just.

03:15:26.000 --> 03:15:27.000

Yeah. And like.

03:15:27.000 --> 03:15:38.000

Yeah, Tim just pointed out that we have Jordan Peterson up here, which. Sneak peek of my talk tomorrow.

03:15:38.000 --> 03:15:39.000

Yeah.

03:15:39.000 --> 03:15:40.000

Oh boy.

03:15:40.000 --> 03:15:41.000

Like mercury. I was gonna say. Yeah. It's a Dr.

03:15:41.000 --> 03:15:42.000

Hi, I got a.

03:15:42.000 --> 03:15:51.000

Jordan P Jordan B. It's all yours, but. Bye, Janet, but yeah, I was gonna say like in Mercury living in the UK.

03:15:51.000 --> 03:15:58.000

You know, like I had folks sort of, with me on different levels talking about How different the UK is, the US in a lot different ways.

03:15:58.000 --> 03:16:10.000

And I'm also kind of like, it's not that. A lot of really important waste.

03:16:10.000 --> 03:16:16.000

If this should show as well.

03:16:16.000 --> 03:16:17.000

The lack of guns goes a long way.

03:16:17.000 --> 03:16:19.000

Oh no, it's a shit show here as well, but at least the gun, it's not a gun related should show it's not a gun related should show it's it's a It really is.

03:16:19.000 --> 03:16:20.000

Yeah.

03:16:20.000 --> 03:16:27.000

It's turf island is not okay, but at least her violin doesn't have guns Okay.

03:16:27.000 --> 03:16:28.000

Yeah.

03:16:28.000 --> 03:16:33.000

Oh, Jesus Christ, yeah, it's, yeah. Anyway, before this gets like too modeling, I guess.

03:16:33.000 --> 03:16:34.000

Yeah.

03:16:34.000 --> 03:16:36.000

Yeah.

03:16:36.000 --> 03:16:37.000

We're, too, too far into it. But, yeah, thank you.

03:16:37.000 --> 03:16:49.000

Hey, we have the queer joy. We take the counterpoint here because we know that these are true and shared experiences, but then also like we come back to the queer joy every time.

03:16:49.000 --> 03:16:50.000

Yeah.

03:16:50.000 --> 03:16:56.000

Cause we're Apex homosexuals. Yeah.